

Message Text

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60

ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 L-03 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03

SAM-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 /071 W
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R 301630Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9378

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THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAM SENT ACTION NEW DELHI INFO
BOMBAY MADRAS KATHMANDU ON JAN 29,1974 IS REPEATED FOR YOUR
INFO

QUOTE

CALCUTTA 0181

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, SK, IN

SUBJ: SIKKIM: CHOGYAL COMES OUT ON TOP?

1. ACCORDING TO UNI, REPRINTED IN JAN. 28 HINDUSTHAN STANDARD,
GOI CHIEF ELECTION COMMISSIONER, T. SWAMINATHAN SAID IN
CALCUTTA THAT "THE FIRST ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS IN SIKKIM ON THE
BASIS OF ONE-MAN-ONE-VOTE WOULD BE HELD SOMETIME IN APRIL.
THE ELECTION COMMISSION... HAD FOUND A SOLUTION ACCEPTABLE
TO ALL THE COMMUNITIES IN SIKKIM FOR THEIR FAIR REPRESENTATIONS
IN THE ELECTED ASSEMBLY TO CONSIST OF 32 MEMBERS. ...15
SEATS WOULD BE RESERVED FOR THE SIKKIMESE OF NEPALI ORIGIN,
15 SEATS RESERVED THE SIKKIMESE OF LEPCHA AND BHUTIYA
ORIGIN, ONE FOR SCHEDULED CASTE OF NEPALI ORIGIN AND ANOTHER
FOR THE BUDDHIST MONASTERIES."

2. COMMENT: IF IN FACT THIS IS THE FINAL FORMULA THEN IT
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LOOKS AS THOUGH THE CHOGYAL HAS MANAGED TO LAND ON HIS FEET

AFTER ALL. ASSUMING HIS (THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF THE NATIONAL PARTY) CONTROL OF THE 15 LEPCHA/BHUTIYA SEATS AS WELL AS THAT OF THE BUDDHIST SANGHA, AND ASSUMING IT IS NOT THE CHOGYAL WHO CASTS THE DECIDING VOTE IN THE EVENT OF A TIE VOTE, THEN HE NEED WIN ONLY ONE OTHER SEAT TO ESTABLISH A 17-15 MAJORITY. IN THE LAST ELECTIONS (FEB. 1973), CHOGYAL'S PARTY WON TWO OF SEVEN RESERVED NEPALI SEATS AS WELL AS THE SCHEDULED CASTE SEAT (SEE ATTACHMENT TO CHOGYAL/BURLEIGH MEMCON DATED FEB. 18, 1973). ONE QUESTION IMMEDIATELY ARISES: WILL THE SIKKIMESE NEPALIS REALLY ACCEPT THIS FORMULA? AND, IF NOT, WILL WE BE IN LINE FOR MORE VIOLENCE IN SIKKIM?
ROSSELOT

UNQUOTE
SCHNEIDER

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NNN

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